



# Dead Horse

March 2009

# DISPATCH

A newsletter by and for the volunteers of Dead Horse Ranch State Park

## Red Tail Hawk Gets a Face Lift



Volunteers Jim Harris and Norm Hephner fill a few low spots in the new wheelchair ramp to the restroom at Red Tail Hawk loop while Rangers Dick Niemi and Justin Swiger clean the mixer. The crew spent a lot of time working on just the right degree of elevation for the ramp and putting in forms which would line up with the existing cement.

## Winter Volunteer Meeting



L to R: Dan Albright, Gary Munson, Sharon Munson, Keith Mangels, Sandra Kendall, Nan Hephner, Norm Hephner, Jim Harris, Marilyn Aker and Jim Aker attended the Volunteer Meeting of January 19th. Verde River Railroad representative, Lisa O'Neil, gave a brief and informative talk.



## "Gotta Get The Doughnuts"

Gary Munson (the doughnut man) offers a doughnut at the Volunteer Meetings.

## Newly Reconstructed Trail Gets Its First Challenge and Survives!



January 17th



January 24th



January 29th

Ranger Bill Fritz and Volunteer Keith Mangels directed the rebuilding of this section of Verde River trail, only to see it flooded when the water rose Saturday, Jan. 24. Bill wondered if the new rock wall, supported by wire fencing, would hold and it did! It will take a few more loads of sand to bring the trail back up, but the base withstood the deluge.

## What Am I?



On January 19th, this Hawk or Eagle appeared at the Lagoons. Does anyone know if it is a Hawk or an Eagle and what kind is it? (look for the answer in April issue)



# Volunteer News

## Coming & Goings

- \* Wayne & Helen Kemp arriving to Quail Maint #42 March 1st
- \* Laurie Blitsch is leaving Quail Maint #42: She will be following a blue grass festival tour for the month of March and will return to Dead Horse again for April.
- \* Jim & Maryan Harris leaving March 31st Quail #41
- \* Tom & Anne Howe leaving March 31st Raven Maint #1
- \* Jim & Marilyn Aker leaving March 31st Raven Maint #2
- \* Dan & Margo Albright (Raven Loop Maint #1) left Feb 1st. They'll be going to the Douglas Arizona City Country Club. Rumor has it they'll be making many trips to the duty free beverage shop.

*Tiny Editor Note:*

*Please, if you do not see your name appear in MileStones, please send the information to carolynmeehan@comcast.net. We want to include everybody. Thank you!*

## Dates to Remember

### March

- 2 - Volunteer Meeting, 9 am, Greenway
- 16 - Volunteer Meeting, 9 am, Greenway
- Arizona State Parks annual Volunteer Venture IS CANCELLED, due to financial budget cuts.
- 23 - Wild West Potluck ... chili cook off!!
- 30 - Volunteer Meeting, 9 am, Greenway

### April

- 13 - Volunteer Meeting, 9 am, Greenway
- 27 - Volunteer Meeting, 9 am, Greenway

## March MileStones

(Birthdays & Anniversaries)

- 1-Jim Harris
- 3-Anne Zeller
- 4-Margo Albright
- 11-Eric Buzonas
- 12-Emmo & Shirley Oltmanns (1955)
- 18-Keven Ward & Patrick Rhoads
- 22-Burt Appling
- 23-Les & Elizabeth Bovee



## DHRSP Cemetary



*Recuerdos De Su Familia  
Rafael R Villa  
Oct 24, 1878 - Sep 26, 1932*



*Nov 2, 1934*

### Thanks To All!

We had a wonderful time with all our great friends at DHRSP. Hope you all have a great year and looking forward to seeing you again.

Love Carol & Dave Nank

## Memorializing Our Past Volunteers

**"What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us.  
What we have done for others and the world remains."**

Three fragrant rosemary bushes have been planted at the head of the volunteer memorial behind Quail Loop. The bushes were purchased with wood money from a nursery in Cornville. They will grow to about 4 feet in diameter and height, and are hardy down to about 15 degrees. Norm Hephner, Jim Harris and Maryan Pharo did the tough work of clearing weeds and stumps from the area, with help from Ranger Justin Swiger and his chain saw. Holes were dug and lined with potting soil before the bushes were planted. Jim and Norm will haul more stones for the front and far side of the slab, reducing erosion and hopefully cutting down on the amount of mud tracked on to the cement. More plants can be added and suggestions are welcome. Please direct them to Maryan. Quail Loop camphosts are currently seeing to the watering of the new plants. The nameplates will be removed and reinstalled closer together, so there will be room for more names in the future.



*submitted by Nan Hephner*

A note from Florence McCormick, Al McCormick's wife: "The memorial service for Al was beautiful. The Chaplain from the American Legion gave a wonderful eulogy and they gave Al a 21 gun salute and played 'taps'. The beautiful memorial that Eric wrote and published in the *Dispatch*, we had framed and took it to the service. It was so beautiful." As well, Forence sent a Thank You card to all her friends at DHRSP expressing her "deepest gratitude" for your kind expression of sympathy.

*Submitted by Wanda Ward*



*Al McCormick*

### From the Park Manager

It's probably not a surprise to hear that we have been impacted by the effects of the economy slump. State Parks funding has been hit hard and we are forced to cut projects and are taking other measures to reduce spending. One way we can help both the volunteer fund and the park budget is by emailing the Dead Horse Ranch Dispatch to the email addresses we have on file. An emailed DHR Dispatch will also enable you to forward it to your friends and family who may have no idea of what great things you are doing. Please send your preferred email address to: carolynmeehan@comcast.net and cc to Eric at: ebuzonas@azstateparks.gov . Thanks for helping us in this way. If you have no way of receiving or sending email let Eric know by letter and we will continue printing and mailing you a hard copy of the Dispatch for as long as possible.

Thanks for your continuing commitment to Dead Horse Ranch and our visitors.

Les Bovee, Manager, DHRSP